

REMARKS

This patent application presently includes Claims 1-43. Claims 1-12, 14, 16-27, 29-36, 38 and 40-43 are allowed, and the remaining claims are rejected. The examiner indicated that Claims 13, 15, 28, 37 and 39 would be allowed if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112. The drawings are amended and the description is amended to account for the amended drawings. There are no claim amendments.

The drawings were objected to for failing to show the "communication hole on the bearing holder wall" as alleged to be claimed in Claims 4-13, 15, 28 and 37.

Under separate cover, the undersigned has submitting herewith substitute sheets 1, 4 and 5 for the drawings. Sheet 1 includes a new Fig. 4B which will be discussed further below. Sheet 4 of the drawings has been amended to show original Fig. 4 as "Fig. 4A." Fig. 6 has been amended as will be described further below.

New Fig. 4B is an enlarged, fragmentary view of the central portion of Fig. 4A. In Fig. 4B, the thrust washer 224 is inserted in the space formed between the through hole of the bearing holder 220 and the yoke 210, as explained at page 19, lines 16 and 17 of the application as filed. Thus, this does not constitute new matter, but just illustrates what was already disclosed.

In addition, Fig. 4B includes a hole h2 formed in the side wall of bearing holder 220 and a hole h1 formed in the thrust bearing 224. Hole h2 was disclosed, for example, in claim 4 as originally filed. In other words, it is merely an illustration of the word description appearing in claim 4. Since claim 4 constitutes original disclosure, this is not new matter. In addition, hole h1 corresponds to the circulation hole of claim 15, which may be formed in the thrust washer and communicates with a space that is surrounded by the bearing 222, the thrust washer 224, and the shaft 105. Again, since claim 15 constitutes original disclosure, this could not be new matter.

From the above discussion, it should be appreciated that the "communication hole" mentioned by the examiner is now illustrated in Fig. 4B. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings should now be withdrawn.

It should be noted that the Brief Description of the Drawings was amended to make reference to "Fig. 4A", instead Fig. 4, and also to make reference to new Fig. 4B. In addition, a paragraph was inserted at page 19 of the Description to discuss the features of Fig. 4B and to provide an antecedent basis for the claim language relating to the holes.

Claim 13, 15, 28, 37 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Regarding claims 13 and 37, the examiner stated that it was not understood how a thrust washer could be inserted into the hole of the bearing holder, because the hole is formed on the wall of the bearing holder according to the specification.

It is respectfully noted that the examiner is misinterpreting the hole that is referred to in claims 13 and 37. The hole in these claims is the "through hole" mentioned at page 19, lines 16 and 17. In Fig. 6 as originally presented, thrust bearing 224 was shown inserted into this through hole of the bearing holder. In the amended version of Fig. 6, however, thrust bearing 224 has been shown exploded out of the hole in the top of the bearing holder so that the hole may be seen. The presence of the hole will also be observed in Fig. 4B, where the thrust bearing 224 is inserted in the hole. With this explanation, the examiner will appreciate that claims 13 and 37 are, in fact, clear and concise, and the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 112 should therefore be withdrawn. Claims 15 and 39 were rejected only because of their dependence from claims 13 and 37. This rejection should therefore also be withdrawn with respect to those claims.

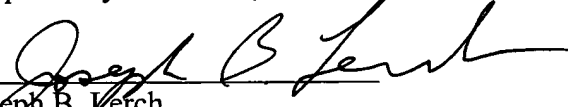
The only explanation given by the examiner for the rejection of claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is that the drawing does not show the rotor with the wall and the hole formed on the wall. As explained above, Fig. 4B now shows those features, so this rejection should be withdrawn.

The examiner indicated that claims 13, 15, 28, 37 and 39 would be allowable if the rejections thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 112 were overcome. Since this has now been achieved, these claims are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants' attorney has made every effort to place this patent application in condition for allowance. It is therefore earnestly requested that this application as a whole receive favorable reconsideration and that all of the claims be allowed as presently constituted. Should there remain any unanswered question, the examiner is requested to call the applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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